

COLLECTION OF SWAB SAMPLES FROM DEAD BIRDS

Tracheal/oropharyngeal swabs:

- ❑ Collect tracheal/oropharyngeal swabs for virus detection testing from fifteen (15) birds representative of the flock. Take swab samples from any dead or sick birds first, and then swab other birds to collect 15 swabs. If there are fewer than 15 birds in the flock, collect samples from all birds.
- ❑ Use dry swabs for dead bird sample collection; use swabs moistened with VTM for live bird sample collection.
- ❑ Insert the swab and rub the mucosa vigorously.
- ❑ Use 1 swab for each bird.
- ❑ Place swabs into tubes containing enough VTM to moisten and cover the swabs.
- ❑ Place 5 swabs (from 5 different birds) into one tube.
- ❑ Submit a total of 3 tubes, each containing 5 swabs.
- ❑ Write the farm name and Premise ID on the side of the box of samples (not on the lid). If you need a Premise ID number, call the DEM Division of Agriculture, 401-222-2781.
- ❑ Submit a completed submission form that includes the Premise ID.

Cloacal swabs:**

- ❑ Collect cloacal swabs for virus detection testing from fifteen (15) birds representative of the flock. Take swab samples from any dead or sick birds first, and then swab other birds to collect 15 swabs. If there are fewer than 15 birds in the flock, collect samples from all birds.
- ❑ Use dry swabs for dead bird sample collection; use swabs moistened with VTM for live bird sample collection.
- ❑ Insert the swab and rub the mucosa vigorously.
- ❑ Use 1 swab for each bird.
- ❑ Place swabs into tubes containing enough VTM to moisten and cover the swabs.
- ❑ Place 5 swabs (from 5 different birds) into one tube.
- ❑ Submit a total of 3 tubes, each containing 5 swabs.
- ❑ Write the farm name and Premise ID on the bottom of the box of samples (not on the lid). If you need a Premise ID number, call the DEM Division of Agriculture, 401-222-2781
- ❑ Submit a completed submission form which includes Premise ID.

*All samples must be taken by a certified poultry technician or by government authorized personnel (DAG, USDA, universities, and laboratory personnel).

**Waterfowl: Cloacal swabs and virus isolation are required.